

Senate Finance Committee Information

Meeting times and locations. The Senate Finance Committee meets on Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. It also meets on Thursday mornings upon adjournment of the full Senate. The committee's designated meeting room is Senate Committee Room 354. Occasionally, the committee meets in a different room to accommodate larger crowds or the needs of other committees. Changes to the committee's regular schedule are generally announced on the Senate floor prior to adjournment. Depending upon the committee's schedule, changes may be e-mailed to the committee's interested persons list by the committee staff when time allows. Please contact the committee's staff if you would like to be added to the interested persons mailing list.

Committee hearings. Committee meetings are broadcast over the internet. Interested persons who are not able to attend a meeting in person can listen live over the internet. To access the live feed, go to the General Assembly's main page at www.leg.state.co.us. A link to audio broadcasts of current proceedings can be found in the "Session Information" tab on the left side of the page. Individual committee hearings can be accessed by selecting the committee's name from the list.

Joint meetings with the House Finance Committee. The joint rules of the House and Senate require the House and Senate Finance committees to stay advised of the activities, functions, and budgets of the Departments of Treasury and Revenue, and the Public Employees' Retirement Association. The Senate Finance Committee meets jointly with the House Finance Committee to receive briefings from these departments annually. This year, the committees met in December to receive these briefing. If needed, the committees may also meet to receive briefings on other public finance or policy issues by staff, state agencies, or other stakeholder groups, or with the Joint Budget Committee. Joint meetings of the House and Senate Finance Committees are held, as needed, on Thursday mornings upon adjournment of both chambers in Hearing Room A of the Legislative Services Building, located at 200 East 14th Ave, in Denver.

Testifying before the committee. Individuals who wish to testify before the committee are asked to sign-up prior to the start of the meeting or before a bill is debated by the committee. Staff will provide separate sign-up sheets for each bill that can be found toward the front of the room. Individuals are also asked to provide contact information on the sheet pertaining to their bill of interest.

The chair of the committee, Senator Tim Neville, is responsible for overseeing public testimony and will recognize those on the sign-up sheets in an order most conducive to the business before the committee. With rare exception, everyone who is signed up will be called to testify. Because the meetings are taped and broadcast over the internet, individuals who are testifying are asked to wait to be recognized by the chair prior to beginning their testimony. The appropriate manner to address the committee chair is "Mr. Chair." The appropriate manner to address committee members is "Senator."

Once witnesses have been recognized by the chair, they may begin their testimony by giving their name and the organization they represent, if any. Committees are subject to tight deadlines and busy schedules. As a courtesy to the legislative members as well as those in the audience waiting to testify, witnesses are asked to keep their testimony brief and relevant to the bill. Please do not repeat testimony that may have already been provided to the committee. Witnesses may distribute copies of handouts and written testimony to the committee. If you wish to distribute materials to the committee that relate to your testimony, please bring at least six copies — one for each member of the committee, as well as a copy for the committee's official record. Please hand any materials to the committee staff person, who will distribute the materials to the committee members.

Witnesses are asked to observe professional decorum during the committee meetings. Clapping, booing, hissing, or otherwise disruptive behavior is not permitted. In addition, witnesses are asked to avoid any personal attacks or other emotional outbursts. Finally, all individuals present in the committee room are asked to turn off all cell phones and electronic devices prior to the start of the meeting.

Committee staff. The Legislative Council Staff person for the Senate Finance Committee is Kori Donaldson, who is available to answer any questions regarding the committee schedule at (303) 866-4976 or kori.donaldson@state.co.us.

Committee updates. Interested persons can sign up on www.twitter.com to follow the Senate Finance Committee and receive periodic updates on the committee's schedule and the status of bills in the committee. The committee's Twitter user name is COFinanceComm.